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# SONIC

## THE HEDGEHOG



**DANGER  
IN  
DOWNUNDA!**

**Turtlingwing  
Productions**  
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EDRIS



# SONIC & TAILS

## OUTBACK GUT CHECK

LOOK, STW--  
IT'S WALT, BARBY  
AND THAT FAR OUT  
FOX NAMED  
TAILS!"

BUT HOW'D  
THEY FIND US? AND  
WHO'S THE SPINY  
BLUE GUY?

THE NAME'S  
SONIC THE HEDGE-  
HOG... AND WE'LL  
EXPLAIN EVERY-  
THING AFTER WE  
TRASH THESE  
FLAT-TAILED  
FREAKS!

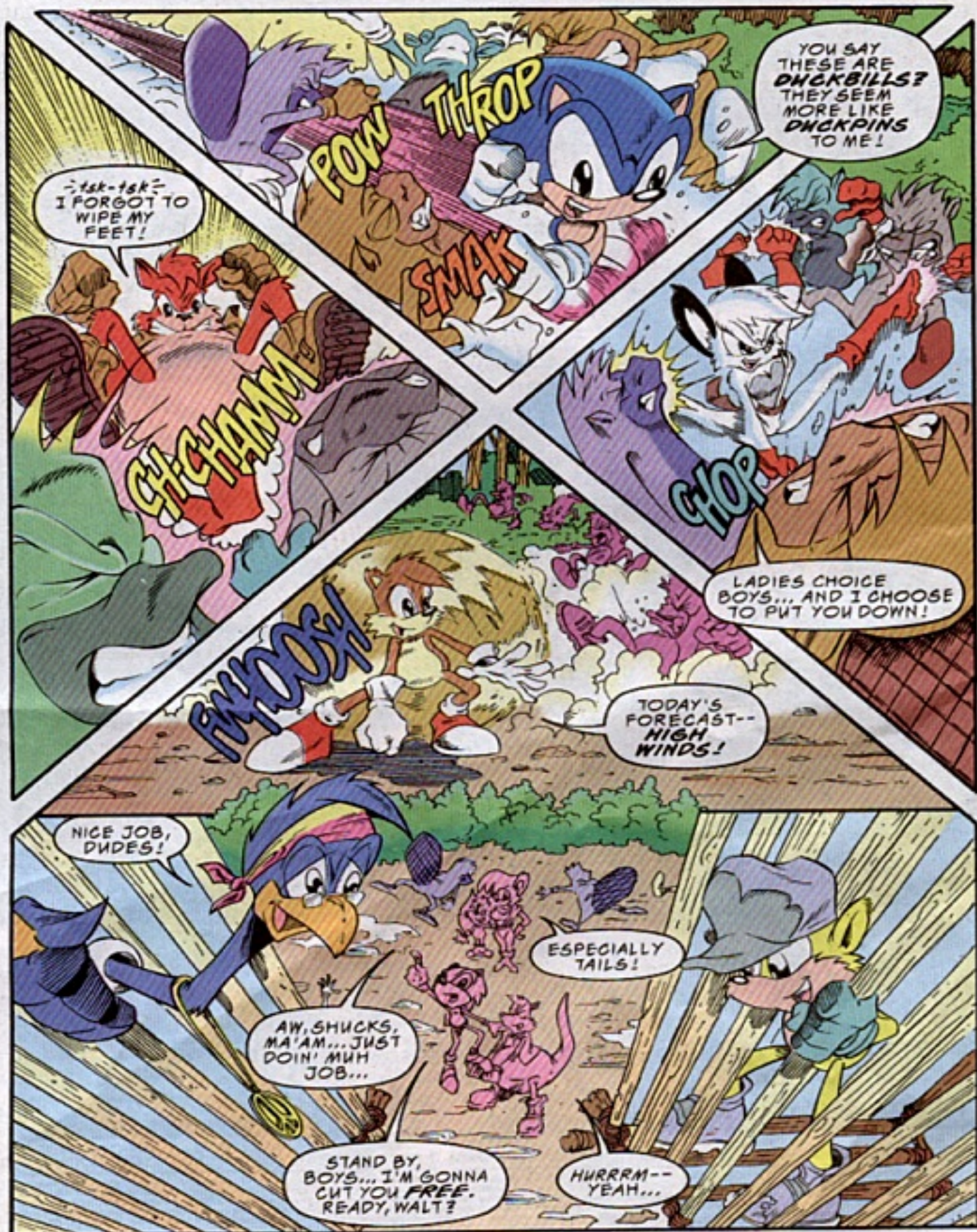
ON MY  
SIGNAL  
EVERYBODY  
... NOW!

\* The DFF first appeared  
in the highly acclaimed  
TAILS 3-issue mini-  
series -- JFC

WRITER: MIKE GALLAGHER ARTIST: HARVO MERCADOOCASIO COLORIST: FRANK GAGLIARDO LETTERER: JEFF POWELL EDITOR: J. FREDDY GABRIE PING EDITOR: VICTOR GORELICK EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: RICHARD GOLDWATER

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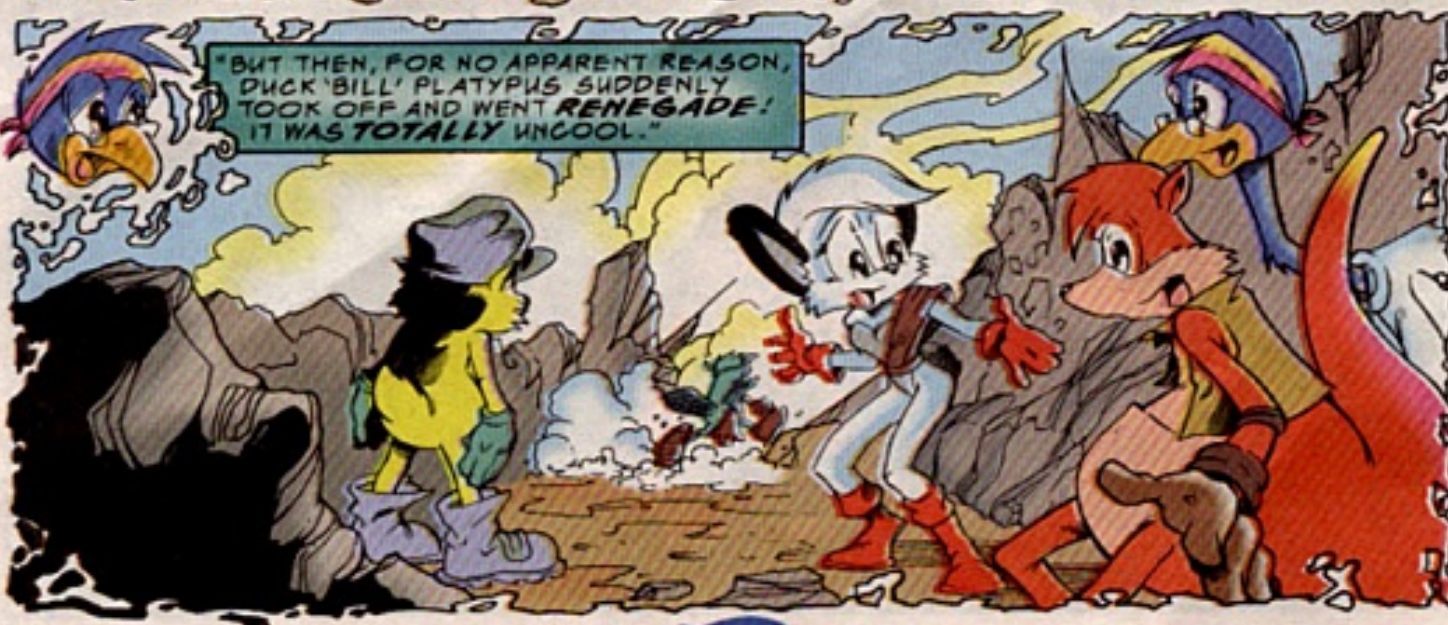


"AS WE TOLD YOU ON THE POST CARD WE SENT AFTER YOUR FRIENDS BUNNIE RABBIT AND ANTOINE D'COOLETTE STOWED AWAY ON ROBOTNIK'S SUPPLY BLIMP, OUR FINAL BATTLE WENT WELL."

"GROGBOT'S ARMY OF COMBOTS WAS DESTROYED. ALTHOUGH WE DIDN'T RECOVER OUR OLD ENEMY'S ENTIRE BODY, WE FOUND ENOUGH PIECES OF HIM TO ASSUME HE WAS GONE FOR GOOD."



"THE MASSIVE CLEANUP OF THE CRATER BEGAN. WE WERE DETERMINED TO REMOVE ALL TRACES OF THE PRISON CAMP AND RETURN IT TO PRISTINE CONDITION. AT FIRST THINGS WENT WELL..."



"BUT THEN, FOR NO APPARENT REASON, DUCK 'BILL' PLATYPUS SUDDENLY TOOK OFF AND WENT RENEGADE! IT WAS TOTALLY UNCOOL."





"NOT LONG AFTER THAT, THE RAIDS BEGAN. OUR FORMER TEAMMATE WAS SEEN LEADING A GUERRILLA BAND OF WILD DUCKBILLS. NIGHT AFTER NIGHT, THEY ATTACKED THE CRATER SITE, RUINING OUR RECONSTRUCTION JOB."

"OUR VOLUNTEER WORK FORCE BEGAN TO QUIT. THE SITUATION WAS TOO DANGEROUS, SO I SHUT THE PROJECT DOWN."

"SOON, WE RECEIVED A LETTER FROM BILL, ASKING GURU AND I TO MEET HIM HERE IN THE OUTBACK. HE SAID HE WAS WILLING TO NEGOTIATE AN END TO THE HOSTILITIES. AFTER DISCUSSING IT, WE AGREED TO GO."

"BUT HIS OFFER WAS MEGA-BOGUS! WE WERE **AMBUSHED** AND COOPED UP IN THOSE CAGES YOU JUST FREED US FROM!"





"GNU AND STU WERE LONG OVERDUE. WALT AND I WERE ABOUT TO GO SEARCHING FOR THEM WHEN TAILS AND SONIC ARRIVED UNEXPECTEDLY."

"TAILS AND I HAVE BEEN ADVENTURING TOGETHER LATELY. SINCE WE WERE IN THE AREA, THE NEW MOBOTROPOLIS POSTWAR COUNCIL HAD ASKED US TO STOP HERE AND ASSESS THE SITUATION AT THE CRATER. NEEDLESS TO SAY, YOU GUYS NEEDED HELP."

"WITH A LITTLE AERIAL RECONNAISSANCE, WE PICKED UP YOUR TRAIL AND WENT ON A WALKABOUT, TRACKING YOU TO THIS LOCATION."

LET'S SPLIT THIS SCENE AND FIND OUT WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH DUCK "BILL" PLATYPUS!

YOU BET ... COME ON TAILS!

FOLLOW ME, FREEDOM FIGHTERS!

HEY, HEDGEHOG-- I GIVE THE ORDERS HERE IN DOWNUNDA... FOLLOW ME, FREEDOM FIGHTERS!



# THE FIND YOUR NAME IN PRINT PAGE

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From Hawaii: Shane Galica, Jaymee Mizal

From Canada: John Bosca, Natalie Rachel, Angela Christie, Jessi Sandgren, Jennifer MacFarlane, Nancy MacFarlane, Kyle Gibson (age 10), Jonathan Gibson, M. Michel, Edan Hopper (age 8), Alexander Lapinska, Holly Adams (age 11), Coyle Hiebner (age 9), Tarik Drummond, Josh Laurie, Matthew Jackson, Jason Santos, Andrea Swanberg (age 6), Andrew Osholm, Shawn McGuire (age 9), Brett Dumas (age 9), Brian Mason (age 10), Nicolas Pelletier (age 11), Matthew Robson (age 9), Pierre Riley.

From Australia: Jack Sandow (age 11), Peter Trybus (age 14), Dan Tole (age 12), Matthew Voysey (age 10).

From Tottenham, England: Thomas Pankas (age 5), Nick Pankas (age 12), Kallie Pankas (age 10).

Thanks  
Letter  
And  
To our  
Writers  
Artists!















Of course there's no report from the hostage site! And what's with the croc patrol? They could be here any second! What should I do?

AND I CAN HEAR HIM... HE'S TALKING TO HIMSELF!

I CAN SEE HIM!

ON THREE, FREEDOM FIGHTERS... ONE--TWO--



OH, DEAR! HE LOOKS AWFUL!

Oh great! They're here! Now what do I do? ...Well? ...Answer me!

OH, MAN! BILL'S TOTALLY EXHAUSTED!

WHO WAS HE TALKING TO?

GNNNGH...

I CAN HEAR SOUNDS UNDER-NEATH THE FLOOR... MECHANICAL SOUNDS!

I SEE THE OUTLINE OF A TRAP DOOR-- STAND BACK, SISTER!



BLZZZT  
CRACKLE



**CROCBOT!**

CURSE YOU  
~DZZZZT~  
FREEDOM  
FIGHTERS...

"CRACKLE": MY PLAN ALMOST  
SUCCEEDED! WHILE I HAD YOU  
DOWNHANDS IN THE CRATER  
DETENTION CAMP, I IMPLANTED  
A POST-HYPNOTIC MIND CONTROL  
DIODE BEHIND DUCK "BILL'S" EAR.

WHEN HE FOUND MY REMAINS  
DURING THE CLEAN UP, THE VISUAL  
STIMULI INITIATED THE PRO-  
GRAMMING CHIP IN HIS HEAD.  
THAT'S WHY HE FLED FROM YOU.  
HIS MIND NOW BELONGED TO  
~HAMMM~ ME!

BILL'S FIRST TASK WAS TO  
CONNECT ME TO A POWER SOURCE  
SO I COULD INSTRUCT HIM. I  
THEN ORDERED HIM TO RAISE A  
DUCKBILL ARMY AND SEIZE THE  
CRATER SITE. ~YRAAP~ AS YOU  
KNOW, HE SUCCEEDED!

NEXT, THEY WOULD SALVAGE COMBOT PARTS  
FROM THE SITE. I WOULD REASSEMBLE ONE  
AND HAVE IT REBUILD ME. ~BZZZZZZT~ SOON,  
I WOULD RISE TO POWER AGAIN AND HAVE  
MY REVENGE ON ALL OF YOU!

BUT IT DOESN'T MATTER ANY-  
WAY--~KSSSSSSSH~ FOR WHEN  
THE BUNYIP ARRIV--~blip~

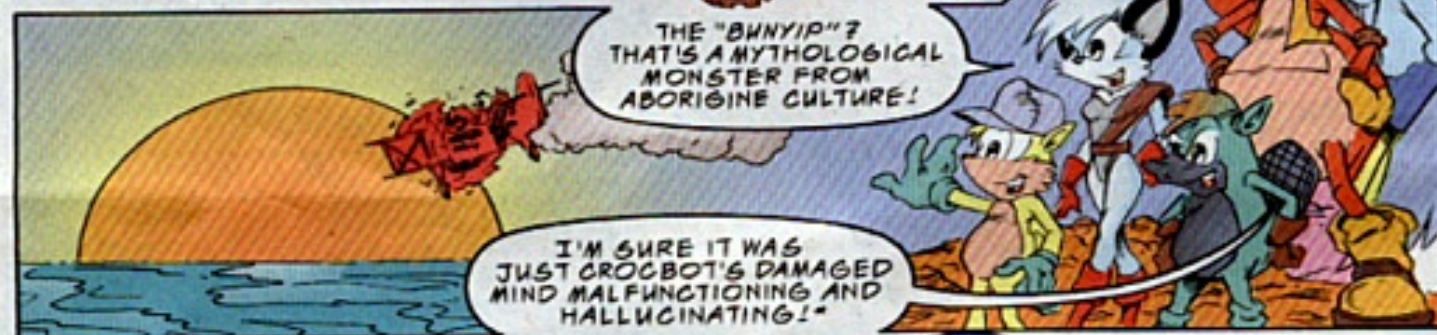
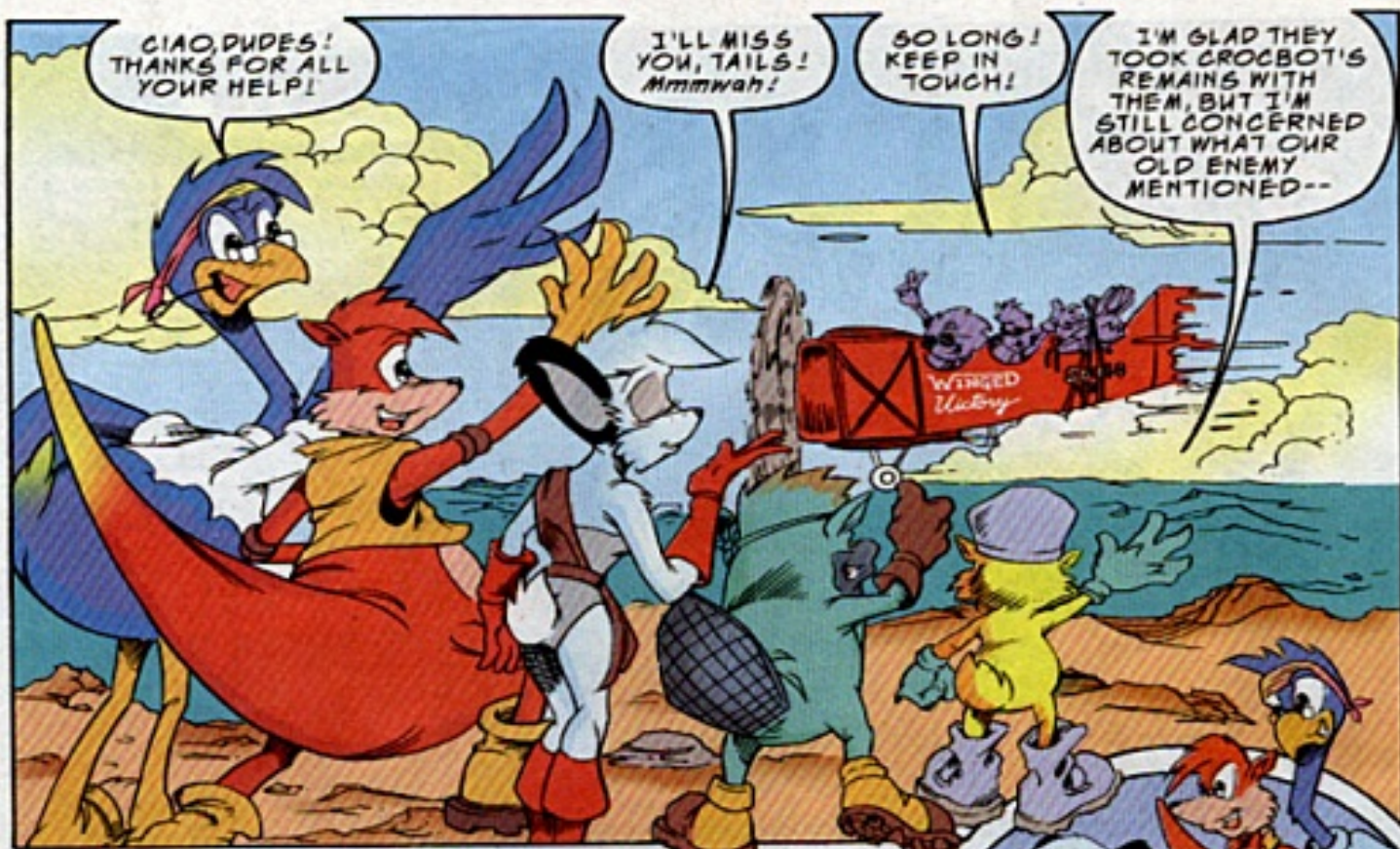
HEY, THAT'S  
MY DECISION  
TO MAKE!

AFRAID NOT  
MARSU-PAL!

I HAVE AUTHORIZATION  
FROM KING ACORN HIMSELF  
TO DISCONNECT AND CONFIS-  
CATE ANY AND ALL HOSTILE  
MECHANICAL DEVICES.

WE DEFER TO  
THE KING. TAKE  
CROCBOT AWAY  
--AND GOOD  
RIDDANCE!





What do you think? Could this be grounds for a DFF special or mini-series? Write to SONIC-GRAMS and let us know! --JFG

The End





PIN-UP COLORING FUN BROUGHT TO YOU BY HARVEY "HARVO" MERCADOOCASIO!



# FAN ART

SONIC



SHANNON  
MARIE  
HASKIN  
AGE 16



JERRY CHANG  
SAN ANTONIO,  
TX



STACY GEORGE  
FRONT ROYAL, VA  
AGE 14½



JESSE  
HENDERSON  
BELLVILLE, TX

IF YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR DRAWING  
PRINTED, PLEASE SEND  
TO: "SONIC  
FAN ART #61"  
c/o ARCHIE COMIC  
PUBLICATIONS, INC.  
P.O. BOX 419  
MAMARONECK, NY  
10543-0419  
ART WILL NOT BE RETURNED.



# SONIC & TAILS

I'M SURE GLAD  
WE'RE NOT CHASING  
THE EVIL WIZARD  
IXIS NAUGHS AROUND  
THE PLANET BY BOAT,  
SONIC! THIS OCEAN  
LOOKS REAL ROUGH  
IF YOU ASK ME!

DON'T WORRY  
ABOUT THE WAVES,  
TAILS! IN TWO  
SECONDS WE MIGHT  
REGRET TAKIN' MY  
BI-PLANE!

WHY?

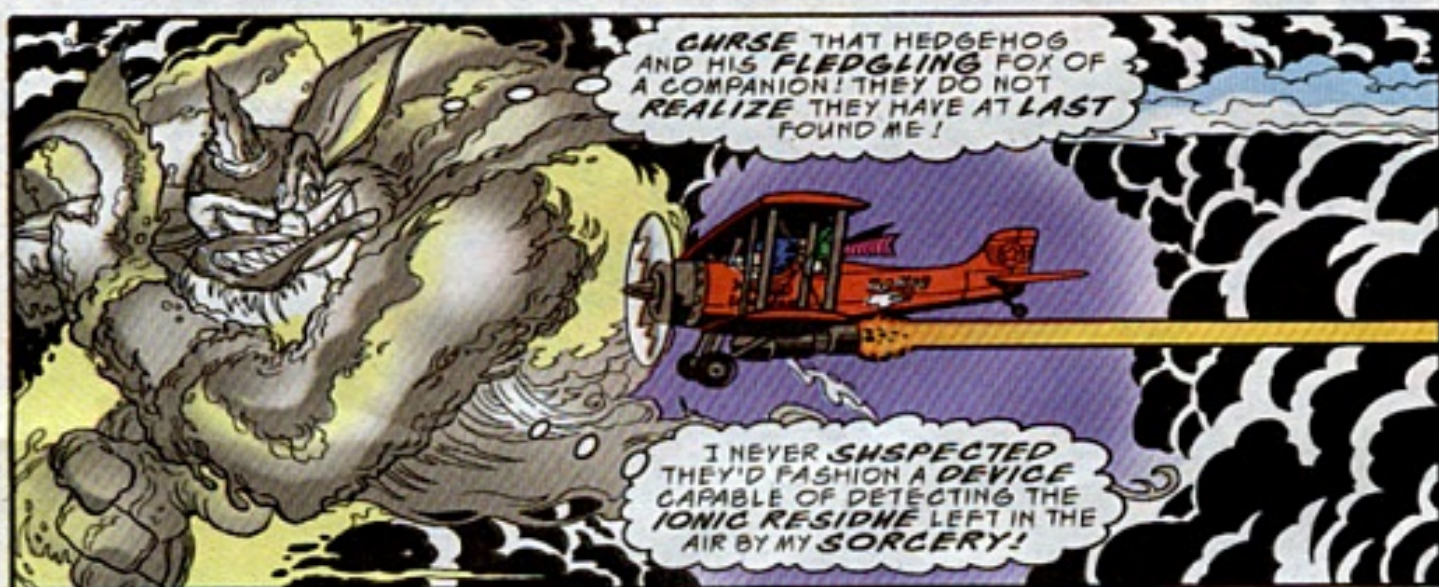
CHECK OUT THOSE  
CLOUDS UP AHEAD! FROM  
THE NASTY LOOK OF 'EM,  
OUR HANDS ARE GONNA  
BE FULL JUST FLYIN'  
THESE UNFRIENDLY  
SKIES!

MAKE NO  
MISTAKE, I'LL  
BUDDY! WE'RE  
DEFINITELY IN  
FOR--

## TOTAL TURBULENCE

KARL BOLLERS • Writer  
STEVEN BUTLER • Penciller  
JIM AMASH • Inker  
FRANK GAGLIARDO • Colorist  
JEFF POWELL • Letterer  
JUSTIN GABRIE • Editor









AAAAHHHH!!



--GRIP--

--OR WE'RE BOTH TOAST!



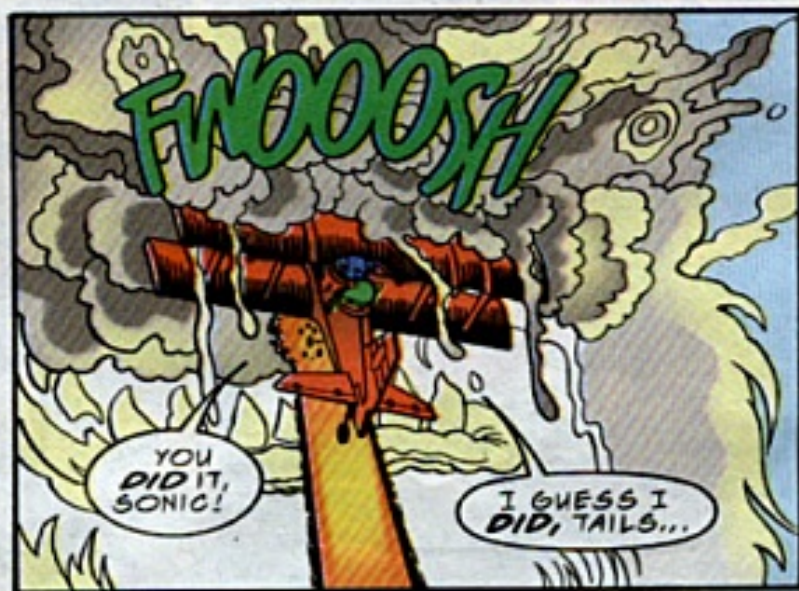
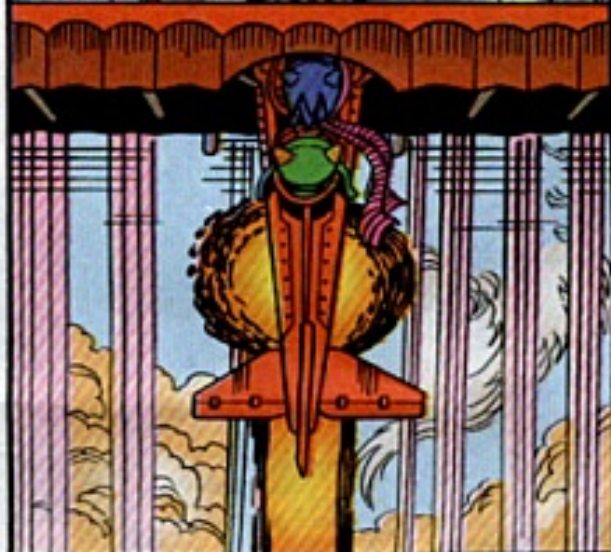




WHAT? IT'S THAT  
HEDGEHOG! HE  
STILL LIVES!



GULP



**FNDOOSH**

YOU  
DID IT,  
SONIC!

I GUESS I  
DID, TAILS...



...AND LOOK-- WITH THOSE  
CLOUDS ALL CLEARED UP, I  
SEE LAND!

YEAH,  
SONIC?

AND  
TAILS?

WHO KNOWS WHAT  
KIND OF ADVENTURES  
ARE IN STORE FOR US  
THERE?

TO BE CONTINUED  
NEXT MONTH...







# Tales of the Freedom Fighters

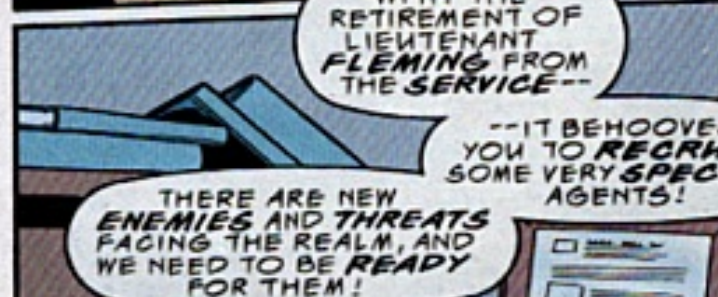
Presents:

GEOFFREY ST. JOHN

ON HIS MAJESTY'S  
SECRET SERVICE



--AND NOW IT  
LOOKS AS THOUGH  
MY TIME HAS COME  
AS WELL!



WITH THE  
RETIREMENT OF  
LIEUTENANT  
FLEMING FROM  
THE SERVICE--

--IT BEHOOVES  
YOU TO RECRUIT  
SOME VERY SPECIAL  
AGENTS!

THERE ARE NEW  
ENEMIES AND THREATS  
FACING THE REALM, AND  
WE NEED TO BE READY  
FOR THEM!



I'M WELL  
AWARE OF  
IT, SIRE!

IS THERE  
ANYONE IN  
PARTICULAR  
YOU HAVE IN  
MIND?

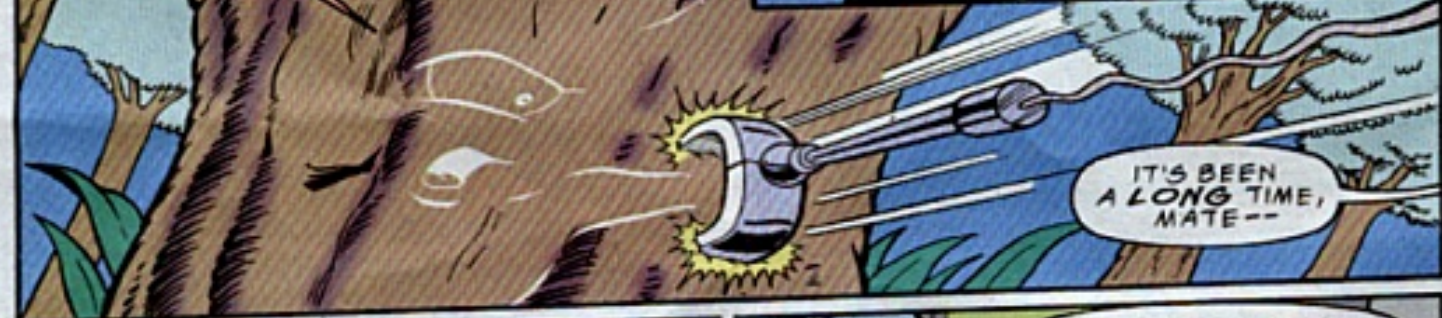


Ken Penders - writes, inks, colors  
Art Mawhinney - draws  
Jeff Powell - letters  
Justin Gabrie - edits











"AGE ISN'T THE CONSIDERATION HERE, IT'S THE SKILLS HE BRINGS TO THE TEAM THAT I'M INTERESTED IN!"

THAT'S FUNNY! I COULD'VE SWORN I HEARD SOMETHING STRANGE A MOMENT AGO!

YOU HAVE GOOD EARS, MATE!

HHH?

WHO ARE YOU?

WHAT DO YOU WANT?

THE NAME IS ST. JOHN--

GEOFFREY ST. JOHN--OF HIS MAJESTY KING ACORN'S SECRET SERVICE--

--AND I'M LOOKING FOR A FEW RECRUITS INTERESTED IN ADVENTURE, PRESERVING THE KINGDOM--

YOU KNOW, THE HSHAL!

INTERESTED?

WELLLL--

IT HAS BEEN KINDA QUIET AROUND HERE SINCE CROCBOT WAS DEFEATED--

--SO, YEAH-- LIKE, I'M IN!

MOBOTROPOLIS DEAD AHEAD!

YOU MATES CHECK IN FOR THE NIGHT--

\*Refer to the lead story-Justin







# SONIC-GRAMS #61

J. Freddy Gabrie  
Editor

## THIS JUST IN!

### MEET SONIC'S NUMBER ONE FANS!

**NEXT MONTH:** SONIC AND TAILS ARE FORCED TO LAND IN THE FORCE-FIELD-COVERED DESERT TOWN OF SAND BLAST CITY! THERE THEY ENCOUNTER A GROUP OF FREEDOM FIGHTERS THAT TAKE HEAD WORKSHOP OF OUR BLUE BLUR TO NEW LEVELS! ALSO, SEE THE PRISONERS OF THE DEVIL'S GULAG DEVISE A WAY OUT, INCLUDING SNIVELY! WRITTEN BY KARL BOLLERS. ART BY THIS ISSUE'S STEVEN BUTLER WITH INKS BY PAM ERLUND. INCLUDED IN THIS ISSUE: PART TWO OF ST. JOHN'S "ON HIS MAJESTY'S SECRET SERVICE" STORY LINE. NOW THAT HE'S GOT RAW RECRUITS TOGETHER, WHAT ARE THEY SUPPOSED TO DO? WRITTEN AND INKED BY KEN PENDERS WITH PENCILS BY ART MANNINNEY. **SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #62 ON SALE JUNE 1998!**



SONIC THE  
HEDGEHOG #62  
ON SALE JUNE 1998!



KNUCKLES  
THE ECHIDNA #15  
ON SALE JUNE 1998!



NIGHTS  
INTO DREAMS #4  
ON SALE JUNE 1998!

**IN TWO WEEKS:** EVERYTHING COMES TO A HEAD AS THE CHAOTIX BAND TOGETHER TO TAKE DOWN THE EVIL MACHINATIONS OF ONE EBONY HARE AND HIS HENCHMEN! THIS ISSUE ALSO MARKS THE DEPARTURE OF ONE OF THE CHAOTIX! ALSO, WATCH IN AWE AS KNUCKLES' POWERS DEVELOP IN AN ALARMING RATE, SPURNING A NEW GUARDIAN CONTROVERSY! JOIN KEN PENDERS, MANNY GALAN AND ANDREW PEPOT IN THE CONCLUSION OF "THE CHAOTIX CAPER!" **KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA #15 ON SALE JUNE 1998!**

**IN OTHER SEGA NEWS:** ALL YOU NEED TO DO IS WAIT THREE WEEKS TO SEE NIGHTS INTO DREAMS BECOME AN ONGOING SERIES! PICKING UP WHERE THE POPULAR MINI-SERIES LEFT OFF... NIGHTS NOW EXISTS IN THE WAKING WORLD. BUT HOW CAN A CREATURE OF DREAMS SURVIVE IN REALITY? THINGS GO FROM BAD TO WORSE AS NIGHTS COMICALLY TRIES HIS BEST TO FIGURE THE WORLD OUT FOR HIMSELF. AND WHAT OF ELLIOT AND CLARIS? IF NIGHTS IS IN THE WAKING WORLD, HOW DOES THIS AFFECT THEM IN THEIR DREAMS? YOU CAN BE SURE NIGHTS' NEMESIS, REALA, WILL USE THIS TO HIS ADVANTAGE! STORY BY SONIC SCRIBE KARL BOLLERS. ART BY FAN FAVES PATRICK "SPAZ" SPAZIANTE AND SAM MAXWELL WITH INKS BY HARTO! **NIGHTS INTO DREAMS #4 ON SALE JUNE 1998!**

**AND COMING SOON:** SONIC SUPER SPECIAL #6: SONIC 50- THE DIRECTOR'S CUT! MORE ON THIS NEXT MONTH!

CATCH YOU ON THE FLIP SIDE!

FREDDY

SEND LETTERS TO:  
**SONIC-GRAMS**

C/O ARCHIE COMIC PUBLICATIONS, INC.  
P.O. BOX 419

MAMARONECK, NY 10543-0419

e-mail address: [SonicNotes@aol.com](mailto:SonicNotes@aol.com)

WEBSITE: [www.archiecomics.com](http://www.archiecomics.com)



NOTE: DUE TO AN OVERWHELMING AMOUNT OF E-MAIL, IT IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR US TO REPLY PERSONALLY TO EACH AND EVERY MESSAGE. HOWEVER, YOUR OPINIONS ARE IMPORTANT TO US AND EACH MESSAGE WILL BE READ. THANKS FOR UNDERSTANDING.



**TODAY WE WILL  
ANSWER LETTERS  
REFERRING TO  
SONIC #53 & #54.  
LET'S GO...**

DEAR FREDDY,

HERE'S MY REVIEW OF SONIC #53: THIS FIRST STORY READ AND LOOKED PRETTY GOOD, ESPECIALLY WITH KEN ONLY INKING ART'S WORK. THE SECOND STORY PENCILED BY SAM MAXWELL WAS BY FAR HIS BEST WORK IN SONIC TO DATE. HE'S GETTING BETTER AND A LOT MORE CONSISTANT. AND EXCEPT FOR HIS ACTION PANELS IN PART TWO, HE DID A FAIRLY GOOD JOB. HOPE YOU'RE INTERESTED IN MY OPINIONS HERE.

RICK CAUSEY  
MESA, AZ

WE'RE ALWAYS INTERESTED IN WHAT YOU HAVE TO SAY. SAM IS CURRENTLY WORKING OVER SPAZ'S BREAKDOWN PENCILS IN NIGHTS #4-6. BELIEVE ME WHEN I SAY THEY LOOK MONDO COOL!

DEAR SONIC-GRAMS,

I'M GLAD SONIC AND KNUCKLES ARE ON GOOD SPEAKING TERMS NOW (#53). I WAS SURPRISED TO FIND OUT THAT ROSIE AND JULAYLA WERE COUSINS. I DON'T THINK SONIC SHOULD TREAT UNCLE CHUCK SO BADLY (#54). FINALLY, I'D LIKE TO SAY THAT SONIC SERIES, ITS SPECIALS, MINI-SERIES AND THE KNUCKLES SERIES ARE SOME OF THE BEST COMICS IN THE WORLD AND HOPE THAT ITS GOING TO BE AROUND FOR ALONG TIME TO COME.

YSIDRO  
"SHADOWSTALKER" RIVERS  
SAPULPA, OK

AS LONG AS OUR READERS KEEP SUPPORTING ISSUES BASED ON SONIC & KNUCKLES (AND NOW NIGHTS) ADVENTURES, YOUR HOPE WILL BE A REALITY.



**HERE ARE SOME  
MISCELLANEOUS  
NOTES FROM  
THE NET...**

HEY ARCHIE COMICS,

I READ ISSUE #53, WAY PAST COOL! SO, SONIC ISN'T HIS REAL NAME! WHEN I READ THAT, I COULDN'T BELIEVE IT! I LAUGHED ALL NIGHT! PLEASE TELL SPAZ AND HARVO THEIR COVER WORK RULES! THAT NAUGUS GUY SURE LOOKS FAMILIAR. THAT'S RIGHT, HE WAS IN THE CARTOON.

CARCUDA THE KILLER  
velociraptor5@juno.com

YOU ARE CORRECT. TO REITERATE (GOTTA' LOVE THOSE WORDS): FOR THOSE OF YOU THAT WATCHED THE NETWORK ANIMATED SERIES OF 'SONIC THE HEDGEHOG,' YOU WILL RECOGNIZE NAUGUS SINCE HE MADE HIS FIRST APPEARANCE ON THAT SHOW.

DEAR SONIC,

DON'T LET THEM MAKE FUN OF YOUR MIDDLE NAME! I LOOKED IT UP IN MY NAME BOOK AND THIS IS WHAT IT SAYS ABOUT THE NAME MAURICE: "THIS PERSON WANTS TO MAKE THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE FOR ALL TO LIVE. IS ABLE TO RELATE TO OTHERS WITH TOLERANCE AND LOVE, USING NATURAL LEADERSHIP

ABILITIES." WELL, IT KIND OF SOUNDS LIKE YOU, I THINK.

LUCY LO  
tiara\_boobowski@hotmail.com

THANKS THERE, LUCY LO! ALL THOSE THINGS ARE SONIC WITH A CAPITAL 'S'!

DEAR SONIC COMICS,

I JUST RECEIVED SONIC #53. IT WAS GREAT! I CAN ALREADY SEE THAT THERE IS GOING TO BE LOTS OF ACTION AND NEW ENEMIES! NOW SONIC AND KNUCKLES ARE FRIENDS. I THINK THE NEXT FEW ISSUES ARE GOING TO BE PRETTY EXCITING!

NATHAN ADAMS  
sigma16@juno.com

NOW THAT YOU'VE READ THE NEXT FEW ISSUES, HAS IT BEEN AS EXCITING AS YOU THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE?

DEAR SONIC,

CONGRATULATIONS ON A GREAT ISSUE #54! I LOVED THE COVER BY SPAZ AND THE INTERIOR ARTWORK BY NELSON ORTEGA! IT'S ABOUT TIME SOMEONE USED LINE SHADING AND HE DID IT RIGHT. I LIKED HOW THE OTHER ARTIST JOHN HEBERT DREW THE EGGBOTS (THEY APPEAR IN THE SONIC AND KNUCKLES GENESIS GAME). I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR THEM TO SHOW UP IN THE COMIC.

WOLF  
GARGOS 911@aol.com

WHAT'S UP, WOLF? I HOPE YOU'RE NOT RELATED TO THAT DRAGO CHARACTER! THANKS FOR THE KUDOS AND I CAN DEFINITELY THANK YOU ON BEHALF OF SPAZ, NELSON AND JOHN.

**UNTIL  
NEXT  
MONTH,  
KEEP ON  
JUICIN'!**